

*verralli* and *C. festivum* are wellnigh identical in form and colour, except for characters of the posterior respiratory processes. Described as being "as long as breadth at base" in *C. verralli*, these are wider than long in *C. festivum*. From the illustration of the larval spiracular plates of *C. verralli* provided by Dixon it is apparent that in that species their "circular plates" are separated by more than the width of one "circular plate". In *C. festivum* these "circular plates" are closely opposed, being a shorter distance apart than half the width of one "circular plate" (see fig. 1a). Both larva and puparium of *C. festivum* bear a prominent, dorso-ventrally flattened, triangular protuberance to either side of the posterior spiracular process (see fig. 1b). The puparium itself is of a uniformly pale-brown colour and has a somewhat waisted appearance (see fig. 1c). It is 9.5 mm. long and has a maximum depth of 3.5 mm.

The larvae and puparia of the other *Chrysotoxum* species known from the British Isles do not appear to have been figured, though the larva and puparium of *C. bicinctum* have been described by Beling (1882) and the egg of *C. cautum* is described and figured by Chandler (1968). It is of some interest that the *C. festivum* larva recorded here was found with *Lasius niger*, since Dixon's *C. verralli* larva was found with the same ant species. As yet the feeding habits of *Chrysotoxum* larvae remain obscure, but there is circumstantial evidence suggesting they are aphidophagous on root aphids tended by ants. Seguy's (1961) statement that "Les larves se développent dans les bois décomposé ou les liquides qui s'écoulent des plaies des arbres" would seem rather unlikely to prove correct, seeing the circumstances of discovery of *Chrysotoxum* larvae found to date. There were certainly no trees or shrubs (or remains of same) larger than a gorse bush within 100 yards of the spot at which the *C. festivum* larva described here was found.

### References

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ELAPHRIA VENUSTULA (HUBNER) IN SUFFOLK.—On 3rd July, 1975 I took a specimen of this moth at Thorpeness, Suffolk. Mr. Chipperfield tells me that it is uncommon in Suffolk, the only previous record to hand being of three or four specimens taken at Blythburgh on 25th June, 1937.—J. ROCHE, 16, Frimley Court, Sidcup Hill, Sidcup, Kent.